

Trade in Pork Between Canada and the United States



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FEB 25 2004

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- Freer trade between Canada and the United States has led to their economies operating more as a single market. As each other's best customers for agriculture and agri-food products, this increased economic integration has resulted in enormous expansion in cross-border activity. It has created a mutually-beneficial trading relationship between Canada and the United States.
- The North American pork industry is highly integrated. Canada and the United States enjoy a thriving trade in pork and hogs, which reached nearly \$1 billion in 2002.
- Canadian hog exports supply a niche market in the U.S. Canada plays an important role in supplying weaner pigs to the U.S. for finishing. In recent years, this trade has increased dramatically. Feeder hogs now make up the vast majority of Canadian hog exports to the U.S. American operators demand Canadian weaners for their high quality, reliability and health status.
- The comparative strength of each country's industry is complementary and each one is able to specialize in their own area. Canada offers an advantage in farrowing pigs, while the U.S. industry has an advantage in finishing pigs.
- In recent years, U.S. pork imports from Canada have also grown significantly. There has been a five-fold increase in U.S. pork exports to Canada in the decade between 1990 and 2000. These have now reached over 45,000 metric tons per year.



For more information

For details on the mutual benefits of the integrated pork industry between Canada and the United States, please visit our Web site at

http://www.agr.gc.ca/itpd-dpci/english/country/usadvocacy_e.htm

All figures are in U.S. dollars


Cat. No. A22-368/2003E
ISBN 0-662-35801-5
AAFC No. 2223E



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

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221.2
P-2224
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